

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 FEA-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-03

DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 PM-04 OIC-02 /095 W

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R 131638Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7080

INFO USERDA GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, TECH, IEA

SUBJECT: IAEA REGIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE CENTER STUDY

REF: STATE 29708

1. IEA HELD DISCUSSIONS FEB. 10 AND 11 TO ACQUAINT KEY MEMBER STATES WITH AGENCY PROJECT PLAN FOR SUBJECT STUDY, AND WITH NEED FOR INFORMATION AND OTHZR INPUTS. MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY R. BOUSSARD (FRANCE/CEA), M. HAGEN (FRG/MIN. OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY), K. RAJAN (INDIAN MISSION), KATSURAGAWA (JAPAN/PNC-TOKAI), B. GUSTAVSSON (SWEDEN), H. HUGHES (UK/BNFL), SLATER AND JENKINS (UK MISSION), MCDONALD (AUSTRALIAN MISSION) IN ADDITION TO KLEIN, TARDIFF, LYONS, MOSS, POLLACK, AND BORIGHT (US). MEETING WAS OPENED BY DDG ZHELUDEV, CHAIRMED BY PROJECT LEADER MECKONI AND ATTENDED BY ESSENTIALLY ALL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF INVOLVED AGENCY PERSONNEL.

2. MEETING CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF SERIES OF BRIEF PRESENTATIONS BY EACH OF 12 SECRETARIAT MEMBERS ON STATE OF DATA AND AGENCY'S INTENDED MODE OF PROCEEDING WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF SUBJECT STUDY, FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSION OF QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY OF THE DATA IN EACH AREA AND OF APPROPRIATE STRUCTURE OF AGENCY STUDY. (U.S. PARTICIPANTS CARRYING TO WASHINGTON COPIES OF ALL AGENCY PRESENTATIONS). OVERALL PROJECT PLAN AS ENVISIONED BY MECKONI AND CATLIN WOULD CONSIST OF SERIES OF CONSULTANTS MEETINGS AND DATA INPUTS IN EACH OF 12 SUBJECT AREA, WITH MEMBER OF SECRETARIAT COORDINATING IN EACH AREA. TOTAL NUMBER OF POTENTIAL MEETINGS IN 1976 WAS OVER 30, MOSTLY IN MAY, JUNE, AND JULY. A PROGRESS REPORT WOULD BE MADE TO SEPTEMBER GEN. CONF. WITH DRAFTING OF FINAL PROGRAM REPORT STARTING IN DECEMBER. REPORT WOULD BE FINISHED IN EARLY 1977, TO ALLOW ABOUT TWO MONTHS FOR TRANSLATING, PRINTING, ETC. BEFORE THE SALZBURG CONFERENCE.

3. BUDGET PROJECTION PRESENTED BY CATLIN WAS TOTAL OF 650,000 DOLLARS IN 1976, CONSISTING OF: ABOUT 300,000 FROM AGENCY REGULAR BUDGET AND SUPPORT SERVICES; SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF 73,500 FROM UNEP AND 40,000 FROM WORLD BANK; AND THE REMAINDER IN COST FREE EXPERT SERVICES. THIS PROJECTION PREPARED PRIOR DEFINITION OF LATEST PROJECT PLAN (PARA 2), AND WAS ADMITTED TO BE SOMEWHAT LOW TO CARRY OUT STUDY AND PROPOSED MEETINGS IN ALL 12 SUB-AREAS. A BUDGET OF ABOUT 250,000 DOLLARS WAS FORESEEN FOR 1977. U.S. DELEGATION MENTIONED, ON SECOND DAY OF MEETING, U.S. OFFER, WHICH HAD BEEN CONVEYED TO APPRECIATIVE DG EKLUND, OF 100,000 DOLLARS OF SUPPORT FOR STUDY. (MISSION EXPECTS WRITTEN ACCEPTANCE SHORTLY, AND WILL POUCH EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE TO DEPARTMENT.) NO OTHER PARTICIPATING COUNTRY ANNOUNCED FINANCIAL (AS OPPOSED TO PROVISION OF EXPERTS) SUPPORT AT THE MEETING, AND AGENCY PARTICIPANTS DID NOT DIRECTLY PRESS FOR SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS.

4. REPRESENTATIVES OF MOST MEMBER STATES AT MEETING PARTICIPATED IN POSITIVE AND FORTHCOMING WAY. NO REP. QUESTIONED WHETHER STUDY SHOULD PROCEED. A PRINCIPAL THEME OF COMMENT (E.G. BY U.S., UK, FRG, AND SEVERAL SECRETARIAT MEMBERS) WAS THAT ECONOMIC AND OTHER INPUT DATA IS LIKELY TO HAVE LARGE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNCERTAINTIES, AND THAT THEREFORE MODELING/PROGRAMMING SHOULD NOT BE TOO SOPHISTICATED OR DETAILED. SKEPTICISM WAS EXPRESSED AS TO APPROPRIATENESS, IN VIEW OF THESE UNCERTAINTIES AND OF SHORTNESS OF TIME, OF DOING EXTENSIVE COMPUTER OPTIMIZATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, IN CASES WHERE AN ASSUMPTION WOULD HAVE MAJOR IMPACT ON RESULTS (E.G. VALUE OF PLUTONIUM WOULD BE HIGH OR LOW DEPENDING ON DECISIONS ON BREEDERS), STUDY SHOULD CALCULATE RESULT FOR RANGE OF ASSUMPTIONS. IN

OTHER WORDS, OVERSIMPLIFICATION BY FIXED AND DEBATABLE ASSUMPTIONS SHOULD BE AVOIDED.

5. SPECIFIC MEMBER STATE ATTITUDES AND INDICATIONS OF INTENT TO HELP, AS DISCUSSED WITH IAEA STAFF AT THIS MEETING AND BEFORE, ARE: FRENCH REP WAS GENERALLY POSITIVE AND INDICATED FRANCE WILL MAKE AVAILABLE EXPERTS IN TWO AREAS; MECKONI UNDERSTANDS SOVIETS AND INDIA WILL ALSO MAKE AVAILABLE EXPERTS IN AT LEAST TWO AREAS; CANADA WILL PROVIDE EXPERT HELP WHERE IT CAN; JAPANESE REP SAID IN SESSION "TOTAL STRUCTURE OF STUDY NOT CLEAR," AND INDICATED THEY WILL CONSIDER PROVISION OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS; FRG REP INDICATED (IN PRIVATE) PREFERENCE THAT STEERING COMMITTEE OF MEMBER STATES BE PERIODICALLY RECONVENED, AND HAD "RESERVATIONS" ABOUT PROVISION OF EXPERTS; U.K. REP MADE NO COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE EXPERTS, BUT WILL LOOK AT SPECIFIC REQUESTS.

6. COMMENT: U.S. PARTICIPANTS STILL HAVE SOME CONCERN OVER DIFFICULTY OF AGENCY MEETING DECLARED SCHEDULE, PARTICULARLY IN SUB-AREAS WHERE THERE IS DEPENDENCE ON SINGLE SECRETARIAT MEMBER WITH PART-TIME EFFORT, TO PULL DATA TOGETHER, ARRANGE MEETINGS, AND DO MAJOR DRAFTING. THIS IS PARTICULARLY ACUTE PROBLEM IN LEGAL/ORGANIZATIONAL/INSTITUTIONAL AREAS. END COMMENT. LABOWITZ

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